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The following is a paraphrased report of a speech made by Edvard Kardelj, representing the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, at a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovenia, held on 19th May 1947. Although, owing to technical difficulties, this report is much overdue it may still be of interest as a general indication of Communist policy.

The International Situation

1. Under the leadership of the United States, world reaction had opened an offensive against Communism, the results of which were already visible everywhere but particularly in Western Europe and the Near East. In Greece and Turkey, world reaction had made the realization of Communist plans very difficult, if not completely frustrating them for the time being. There was a possibility that Communist forces in Greece would be destroyed and great efforts would have to be made to keep activities in Greece going, even on a minor scale, in anticipation of a more favorable situation sometime in the future. Final plans were still being studied by the Balkan Politburo of the Communist Party in conjunction with Moscow.
2. The breach between Communism and world reaction under the leadership of the United States and Great Britain was bound to widen, and it was the opinion of Moscow that developments in the reactionary states would gradually tend towards Fascism as the coming struggle intensified the two extremes. Communism, under the leadership of the Soviet Union would continue to do everything to avoid a definite breach, and particularly open conflict, but there were limits to such tactics which must not be overstepped. Communism must definitely, whatever happens, consolidate its gains in order that at a more favorable time it could once more adopt the offensive.
3. Germany is one of the most important of Communist spheres of operation and the problem of Germany would widen further the gulf between the East and the West. Nevertheless, plans for a Communist Germany must not be upset and since Germany is the key position in Europe, a permanent barrier to further dissemination of Communist propaganda would be set up should

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she reorganized in accordance with the wishes of world reaction. The Soviet Union would therefore concentrate primarily on the struggle to make Germany a Communist State and by so doing rule the rest of Europe. It was obvious that the German people still thought along Nazi lines, but in the Soviet Zone it was clear that it would be possible to lay the foundations on which to build a Communist Germany. "What the reactionaries want is the creation of an order in Germany which makes the development of Communism impossible. But what we want", said Kardelj "is the creation of an order which does exactly the opposite."

4. Regarding Austria, Kardelj said that world reaction would create an anti-Communist bias and if at present it was not possible actually to eliminate this then every effort would be made to weaken Austria.

#### The Situation in Yugoslavia.

5. World reaction was waging against Yugoslavia not only an increasingly bitter political struggle but also an economic one. Politically this fight could not hurt Yugoslavia as she was safely under the protection of the Soviet Union, but on the other hand the economic battle could do her a great deal of harm and although the solution of the problem would be very costly it would nevertheless be found. Yugoslavia would be thrown still more on her resources, i. e. she would receive still less essential machinery etc., from abroad and only as much as could be produced for her in the friendly States. She would be forced to exchange her own products for essential foreign ones, although this would mean that the Yugoslavs themselves would suffer. But however badly this policy might react on the general morale of the masses, it was the only possible way for Yugoslavia to achieve complete economic independence.
6. The duty of the Communist Party was to prepare the working classes for these difficulties but also to see that any serious counter-action by them is immediately suppressed by force. It must be assumed that in view of the offensive being waged against Yugoslavia from abroad, the activities of the anti-Communists within the country would be certain to increase and they would exploit existing and future difficulties to stir up strife against the Communists. It was therefore necessary to be continually on the alert and every Communist must act as a channel of observation for the UDB and the militia. As regards the chief leaders of the Opposition, short work would be made of them and the utmost force used. The way which Misa Trifunovic had gone, and on which he would soon be followed by Jovanovic would very soon also be taken by the remaining agitators of the old reactionary party. "We will go our own way and continue to do so come what may. That is what is demanded of us by our world movement, by Tito and by our great leader Stalin".

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